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REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

COMMEMORATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SUPPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM OF THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENTS TO PROMOTE AND CONSOLIDATE NEW OR RESTORED DEMOCRACIES

AGENDA FOR DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated 17 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

As we commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, I have the honour to refer to the inherent relationship among democracy, peace and sustainable development, and to the importance of this relationship in advancing the ideals expressed in the Charter of the United Nations.

The interdependence among democracy, peace and sustainable development is well known. In your address before the San Francisco ceremony commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Charter you said: "Democratization can balance the individual's need for identity with the need for a workable international system: it can help to prevent conflict; it is vital for development."

Most democratic countries enjoy the highest levels of social and economic development in the world. The relationship, however, is not unidirectional. In

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countries which enjoy democratic freedoms, sustainable development has played a key role in allowing democracy to take root and flourish.

The existence of democratic societies has also contributed greatly to the advancement of world peace. Modern history has demonstrated that democracies do not wage war upon democracies.

Peace, democracy and sustainable development form a triangle in which each side reinforces and is reinforced by the other two. As the United Nations rededicates itself to the ideals set forth in the Charter half a century ago, its efforts to realize these ideals can be facilitated by activities which build upon and enhance the interrelationship among democracy, sustainable development and peace.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 10, 29, 41 and 101 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Gad YAACOBI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Israel
to the United Nations